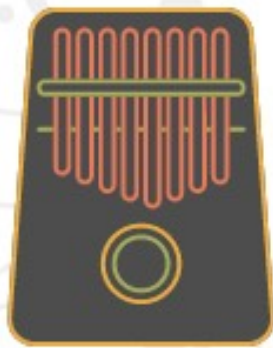




Learn  
About The

# KALIMBA



SQUILT The word "SQUILT" is written in a colorful, blocky font. To its right is a graphic of a musical staff with several notes and a treble clef, rendered in various colors.



## About the Lesson:

Celebrate Music is traveling to Africa! This lesson will help students learn about an instrument that is quite popular on the continent of Africa (and beyond!) - the **Kalimba**.

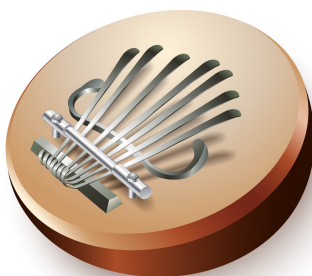
The Kalimba is deeply embedded in almost every African culture - with each group developing their own version of this "thumb piano".

## Instructions:

Print the sheets you feel your child(ren) will use. I will go over all of the packet on the screen in our lesson as well.

I have included activities for all age levels.

The Supplemental Resources sheet provides ideas if you would like to learn more about the material presented in our lesson.





## Supplemental Resources/Kalimba

The Kalimba

**(this is very helpful to watch -  
can you watch it before our lesson?)**

Kalimba Magic Learning Zone

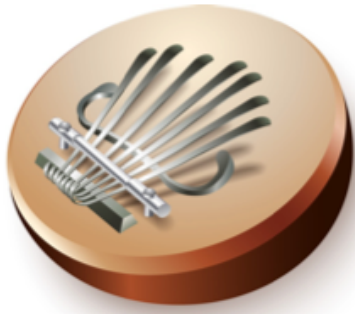
The Mbira (Brittanica)

The Halls of Music - Thumb Piano

# AFRICA (PART II)



- ☐ Lake Victoria is the largest lake in Africa and the second-largest freshwater lake in the world..
- ☐ The giraffe, zebra, gorilla, hippopotamus, chimpanzee and wildebeest are unique to the continent and only found here.
- ☐ Africa is home to the world's largest living land animal, the African elephant, which can weigh up to 7 tons..
- ☐ Each African community has its own style of music



# Kalimba



Also known as the **Mbira** or the **Thumb Piano** - it is an actual FAMILY of instruments native to Africa



It is a **LAMELLAPHONE** - having a series of thin plates, or "tongues", each of which is fixed at one end and has the other end free.



Originally this instrument came from the Shona people of **Zimbabwe**.



On May 21, 2020, as part of Zimbabwe Culture Week, Google featured the mbira with a doodle.



It has been around for thousands of years ... the tines were first made from bamboo, then later metal.



There are literally hundreds of styles of thumb pianos and all styles of music are now played on this instrument

## Instruments of Africa:

### *The Kalimba*



Watch this ***SQUILT created video*** to hear the sound of the Kalimba and see different images of the Kalimba.

# KALIMBA LISTENING

What do you notice about each piece? Draw as you listen.

#1

#2

#3

#4

# KALIMBA LISTENING

What do you notice about each piece? Write it down!

#1

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

#2

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
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#3

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<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

#4

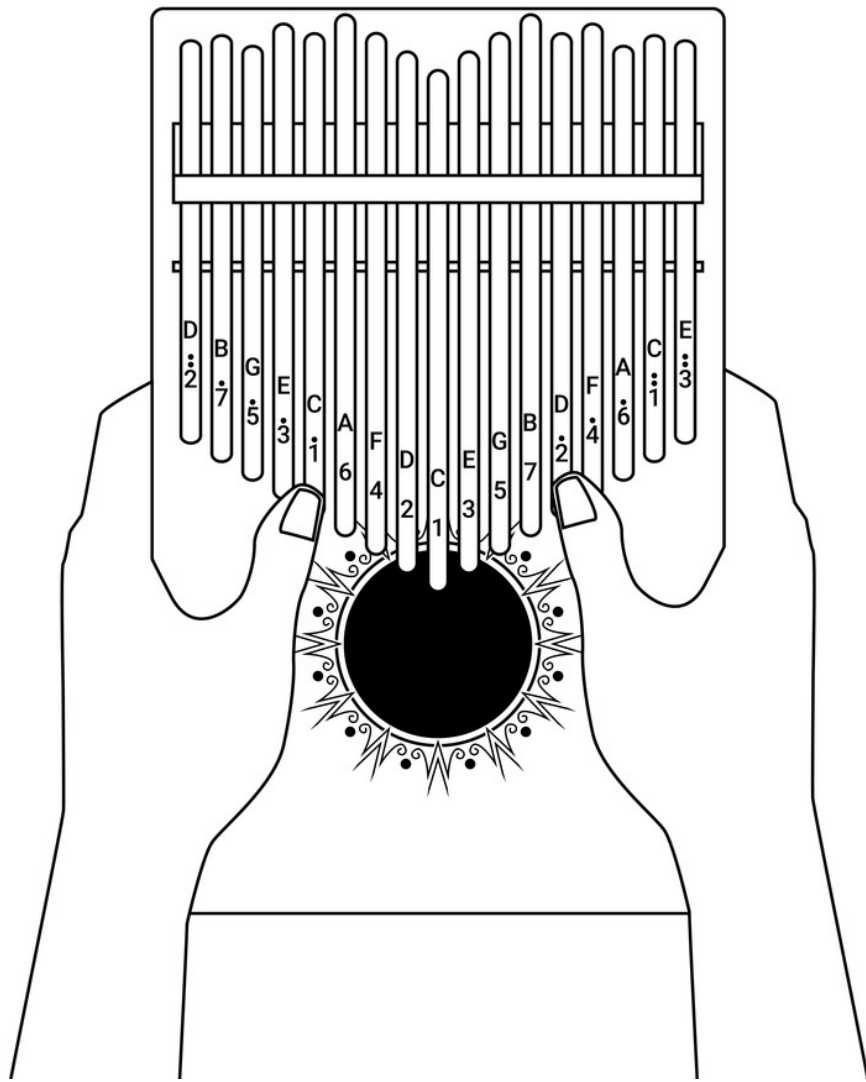
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
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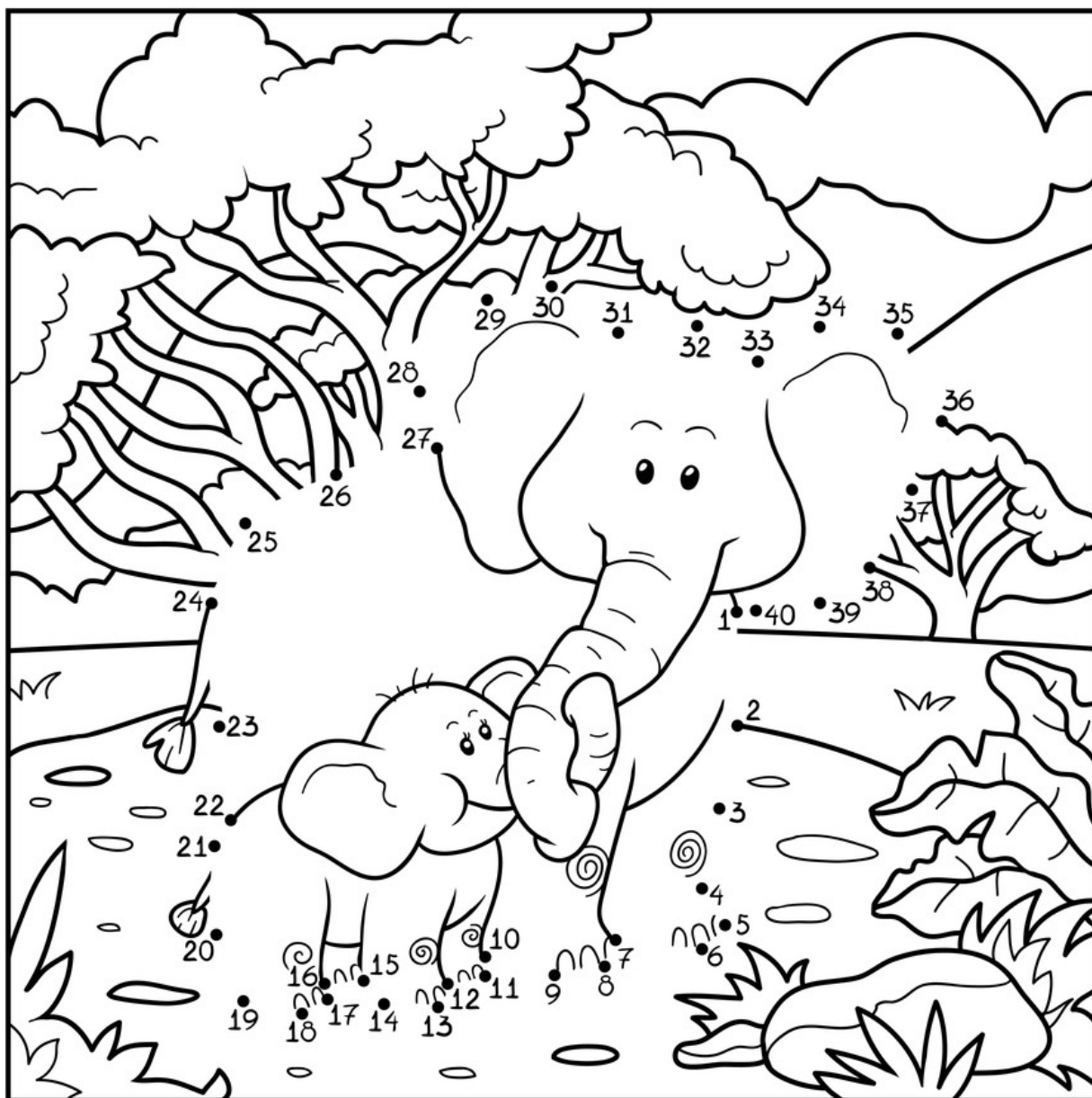


# Draw What You Hear



# Color the Kalimba





# Loxodonta Africana

(African Elephant)

# SQUIZ

## The Kalimba

1. The Kalimba is a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ family.
  - a. Brass
  - b. Lamellaphone
  - c. String
  - d. Thumb Piano
  
2. Originally, the Kalimba comes from \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Zimbabwe
  - b. South Africa
  - c. Ghana
  - d. Australia
  
3. The first Kalimbas were originally made from
  - a. Metal
  - c. Wood
  - d. Bamboo
  - e. Glass

4. Another name for the Kalimba is the Mbira.

- a. True
- b. False

5. Only African music is played on the Kalimba

- a. True
- b. False

6. What is the central element of African music?

- a. Melody
- b. Dynamics
- c. Instrumentation
- d. Rhythm

7. What is the name of the largest lake in Africa?

- a. Lake Kalimba
- b. Lake Victoria
- c. Lake Loxdonta
- d. Lake Brian

8. The Kalimba is played with the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Wrists
- b. Arms
- c. Thumbs
- d. Lips

9. Can anyone learn to play the Kalimba?

- a. Yes
- b. No

10. What are the thin plates on the Kalimba called?

- a. Tongues
- b. Flaps
- c. Levers
- d. Notes

Answers:  
1. B 2. A 3. D 4. A 5. B 6. D 7. B 8. C 9. A 10. A